17. At present the Fisheries of the State are under the immediate administrative control and direct supervision of the Director of Agriculture. But in view of the immense possibilities for the development of fisheries under closer supervision and control, it is considered necessary that the Fisheries Branch of the department should be placed under the immediate supervision of a technically qualified officer, the Director of Agriculture continuing however, to exercising general supervision. For this and for the installation, as an experimental measure, of a cold storage plant at Trivandrum for the preservation of fish, a provision of over Rs 12,000 has been included in the budget for the next year.

18. *Industries* budget includes provision for the opening of new sub-agencies at Calcutta, Poona, Karachi and Ahmedabad, as also for the continuance of the Trade Agent and the Sales Depot at Bombay. A provision of Rs 90,000 has also been made for the working expenses of the Government Rubber Factory. A receipt of Rs 50,000 is also expected from the sale of the manufactured articles.

19. *Medical.*—There is at present no Specialists' cadre in the Medical Department of the State, though the department is not wanting in Specialists in one branch or other of the Medical Science. These specially qualified officers have now to take rank along with those in the general cadre. It is, however, considered that the working of the department could be made more efficient if the Specialists are detached from the general cadre and placed in a separate self-contained special cadre created for them. An allotment of Rs 4,050 has therefore been included in the next year's budget for the necessary readjustments in connection with the creation of the Specialists' cadre of Medical Officers. The opening of a Tuberculosis Sanatorium in the State has been under consideration for some time past. But, as the scheme is costly, it may take some time to materialise. Meanwhile in view of the increasing number of tuberculosis patients in the State, it is proposed to open a tuberculosis hospital in the first instance at Nagercoil and a sum of Rs 12,000 is provided in the budget for the acquisition of the necessary lands. Two additional wards and a subsidiary operation theatre have recently been added on to the General Hospital, Trivandrum, to provide for the considerable increase in the number of inpatients in that institution. A small additional staff is also to be appointed to cope with the consequent increase of work.

20. *Co-operative department.*—The various reforms suggested by the Co-operative Enquiry Committee for the better working of the department will receive the attention of Government after the Committee's Report has been discussed by the two Houses of

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[Mr. C. S. Krishnaswami Aiyar.[

Legislature. A provision of Rs 10,000 for the amelioration of the depressed classes in the State is also included in the budget.

21. *Public Service Commissioner.*—This time last year, the House was told that the report of the Public Service Recruitment Committee appointed to enquire into and report on the question of recruitment to Public Service was engaging the attention of Government. Since then an officer of high standing was appointed to examine the question in all its aspects and submit a report on the principles to be followed by Government in their future policy in the matter. He was also asked to prepare a scheme for the constitution of a Public Service Commission for the State. This Officer submitted his report to Government in March last. The report has been carefully considered by Government. They are of opinion that the institution of a central authority for recruitment of Public Service will dispose of many of the objections raised against the method of appointment resorted to by the departmental officers. But, at the same time, they consider that owing to the comparatively small size of the State and the quantity of work to be turned out, there is no necessity at present for an expensive Public Service Commission. An officer of high status has therefore been appointed as the Public Service Commissioner to hold office for a period of three years. The scheme will be worked tentatively for three years at the end of which the position is proposed to be reviewed in the light of the conditions then existing. The provision required in this connection is made in the budget.

22. *Standardization*—Closely allied to the question of bringing all recruitments to the Public Service to a common basis is the question of the standardization of salaries. The House is aware that Government have already sanctioned certain proposals for standardizing the pay of the officers of the State service. This scheme, apart from being a measure of ultimate retrenchment of expenditure, is also found to be a necessary preamble to the proper functioning of the Public Service Commissioner. Before the standardization, the number of varying scales of pay was so large that any attempt at laying down definite principles for recruitment to Public Service on a common basis would have been beset with considerable difficulties. The rearrangement of the large number of different scales of pay into a much smaller number of groups has, however, removed these difficulties and it is hoped that with these acilities, the Public Service Commissioner will find it possible nd easy to so adjust recruitment to Public Service as to give, as far as possible, equal chances to men with equal qualifications.

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